

JOHN ENGLAND.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 129.]

MARCH 5, 1840.

Mr. TALIAFERRO, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, made the following

### REPORT:

The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, to whom the petition of John England was referred, concur in the report made 25th Congress 3d session, hereto annexed ; and report a bill.

DECEMBER 21, 1838.

*The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, to whom was committed the memorial of John England, report :*

That the evidence in the case, which accompanies this report, is considered such as to justify them in reporting a bill, and is as follows :

I hereby certify that I have been well acquainted with John England, late of the county of Stafford, and State of Virginia, for many years—indeed, for more than half a century ; and always considered him an honest, well-disposed man. I well recollect that he was a soldier in a camp in the Forge Old-field, about one mile above Falmouth, in the year 1781 ; how long he remained there, I cannot say : and I recollect to have heard that he was removed from thence to the forge, by order of the commander-in-chief, General Weedon, for the purpose of being employed as an artificer in making fire-arms, &c. ; but that he was still considered as in the military service of the United States, and liable to be called on when wanted. I have no precise recollection how long he was thus employed, but I think it must have been at least six months ; indeed, I can safely say that I have seen him at work there for a much longer period.

Witness my hand, the 20th day of January, 1838.

R. H. HOOE.

I hereby certify that I concur in every particular with the above certificate of R. H. Hooe.

THOMAS HARWOOD.

Blair & Rives, printers.

STAFFORD COUNTY, *to wit* :

Personally appeared before the undersigned, a justice of the peace for the county of Stafford, in the State of Virginia, [R. H. Hooe and Thomas Harwood,] and made oath that the foregoing statements are true, to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand, this 20th day of January, 1838.

W. P. CONWAY.

I, Thomas C. Scott, do hereby state that I have heard a certain John Bell, (who is now dead,) a very old man, say that he knew John England was draughted for military service in the revolutionary war; that afterwards he was detained, by order of General Weedon, for the purpose of making fire-arms at the forge, near the town of Falmouth, the said England being a first-rate workman of that description.

THOMAS C. SCOTT.

VIRGINIA, *Stafford county, to wit* :

Sworn to before the undersigned, a justice of the peace for said county, the 20th January, 1838.

W. P. CONWAY, J. P.

WASHINGTON, *January 3, 1838.*

The undersigned is well acquainted with John England, who is an applicant for a revolutionary pension, and he is satisfied that the truth of any statement made by the said England of his services may be relied on.

JOHN M. PATTON.

WASHINGTON, *January 3, 1838.*

In reference to the claim of John England, now before the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, the undersigned perceives, on looking into the papers, that no evidence is offered by the petitioner to prove his service, except *his own statement on oath*. The undersigned has, from early life, known John England intimately, and *he knows* him to be a man of as fair character as ever lived. He is now considerably advanced of eighty years of age, and for more than sixty years past he has sustained an unsullied reputation. It was very difficult, at the commencement of the war of the revolution, to obtain artisans suited to the military operations; whenever, therefore, soldiers were discovered to be good artificers, they were familiarly detailed to perform service in some public establishment. Such was the case in regard to John England, to the *knowledge* of the undersigned, who then resided near the foundry in which John England, a most distinguished artisan, was detailed to work. The petitioner is now very aged, infirm, and poor; and the undersigned is satisfied that the account given by him of his services is true.

Very respectfully,

JOHN TALIAFERRO.

Hon. Mr. MORGAN.